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1. An information utilization apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing a delivered piece of
5 information including encoded data and applicable time
data defining the time period authorizing the use of
the encoded data;

decoding means for decoding the encoded data
stored in said memory means;

10 processing means for carrying out a set of
processing steps for an operation requested by the user
on the data decoded by the decoding means; and

control means for controlling said decoding means
and said processing means to operate at an appropriate
15 time in accordance with the operation requested by the
user and the applicable time data stored in said memory
means.

2. An information utilization apparatus according
to claim 1, wherein said control means comprises
20 judging means for determining if the current time
agrees with the time authorizing the use of said
encoded data.

3. An information utilization apparatus according
to claim 2, wherein said control means controls said
25 processing means to operate when said judging means
determines that the current time agrees with the time
authorizing the use of said encoded data.

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operation command issuing means for issuing a
command responding to said request for an operation to

the corresponding decoding means and the corresponding processing means if the current time is determined by said judging means to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data.

6. An information utilization apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining the time period authorizing the use of the encoded data;

decoding means for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory means;

plain data storage means for storing the data decoded by said decoding means;

a plurality of processing means for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding means;

judging means, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data; and

operation command issuing means for issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said decoding means and said corresponding processing

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means if the current time is determined by said judging means to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and the encoded data storage means does not store the encoded data, and issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said corresponding processing means if the current time is determined by said judging means to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and said plain data storage means stores the decoded data.

7. An information utilization apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining the time period authorizing the use of the encoded data;

a plurality of decoding means for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory means;

a plurality of processing means arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding means for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding means;

judging means, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

operation command issuing mean for issuing a
command responding to said request for an operation to
the corresponding decoding means and the corresponding
processing means if the current time is determined by
5 said judging means to agree with the time authorizing
the use of said encoded data; and

operation command reserving means for reserving
the issuance of a command responding to said request
for an operation until the time authorizing the use of
10 said encoded data if the current time is determined by
said judging means not to agree with the time authoriz-
ing the use of said encoded data.

8. An information utilization apparatus compris-
ing:

15 memory means for storing a delivered piece of
information including encoded data and applicable time
data defining the time period authorizing the use of
the encoded data;

20 decoding means for decoding the encoded data
stored in said memory means;

plain data storage means for storing the data
decoded by said decoding means;

25 a plurality of processing means for carrying out
one of different sets of processing steps for an
operation requested by the user on the data decoded by
the decoding means;

judging means, upon receiving a request for

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an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

5 operation command issuing means for issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said decoding means and said corresponding processing means if the current time is determined by said judging means to agree with the time authorizing the use of
10 said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and said plain data storage means does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said corresponding
15 processing means if the current time is determined by said judging means to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and said plain data storage means stores the decoded data; and

 operation command reserving means for reserving the issuance of a command responding to said request
20 for an operation until the time authorizing the use of said encoded data if the current time is determined by said judging means not to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data.

9. An information access control method for use
25 in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising the steps of:

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picking up the applicable time data added to said encoded data and indicating the time period authorizing the use of the encoded data in response to a user request for an operation; and

5 decoding the encoded data stored in said memory and carrying out a set of processing steps for the operation requested by the user at an appropriate time according to said picked up applicable time data.

10 10. An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of decoding sections for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

15 arranging a plurality of processing sections arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding section for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding section;

20 judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data; and

25 issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to the corresponding decoding section and the corresponding processing section if the current

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time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data.

5 11. An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging a decoding section for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

10 arranging a plain data storage section for storing the data decoded by said decoding section;

arranging a plurality of processing section for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data
15 decoded by the decoding section;

judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;
20 and

issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said decoding section and said corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time
25 authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and the plain data storage section does not store the decoded data, and issuing

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a command responding to said request for an operation to said corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and said plain data storage section stores the decoded data.

12. An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of decoding section for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plurality of processing sections arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding section for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding section;

judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to the corresponding decoding section and the corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data; and

reserving the issuance of a command responding to said request for an operation until the time

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authorizing the use of said encoded data if the current time is determined in said judging step not to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data.

5 13. An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging a decoding section for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

10 arranging a plain data storage section for storing the data decoded by said decoding section;

15 a plurality of processing section for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding section;

judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

20 issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said decoding section and said corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data, and the plain data storage section does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to

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said corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and said plain data storage section stores the decoded data; and

reserving the issuance of a command responding to said request for an operation until the time authorizing the use of said encoded data if the current time is determined in said judging step not to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data.

14. A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

picking up the applicable time data added to said encoded data and indicating the time period authorizing the use of the encoded data in response to a user request for an operation; and

decoding the encoded data stored in said memory and carrying out a set of processing steps for the operation requested by the user at an appropriate time according to said picked up applicable time data.

15. A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information

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arranging a plurality of decoding sections for
5 decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data; and

16. A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

arranging a decoding section for decoding the
encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plain data storage section for storing
the data decoded by said decoding section;

5 arranging a plurality of processing section for
carrying out one of different sets of processing steps
for an operation requested by the user on the data
decoded by the decoding section;

10 judging, upon receiving a request for an operation
from the user, for determining if the current time
agrees with the time authorizing the use of said
encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;
and

15 issuing a command responding to said request for
an operation to said decoding section and said corre-
sponding processing section if the current time is
determined in said judging step to agree with the time
authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring
to said applicable time data and the plain data storage
20 section does not store the decoded data, and issuing a
command responding to said request for an operation to
said corresponding processing section if the current
time is determined in said judging step to agree with
the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and
25 said plain data storage section stores the decoded data.

17. A storage medium having program code instruc-
tions stored thereon which perform information access

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control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

5 arranging a plurality of decoding section for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

 arranging a plurality of processing sections arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding section for carrying out one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by
10 the user on the data decoded by the decoding section;

 judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time agrees with the time authorizing the use of said
15 encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

 issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to the corresponding decoding section and the corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with
20 the time authorizing the use of said encoded data; and

 reserving the issuance of a command responding to said request for an operation until the time authorizing the use of said encoded data if the current time is determined in said judging step not to agree
25 with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data.

18. A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access

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control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory for storing a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

5 arranging a decoding section for decoding the encoded data stored in said memory;

 arranging a plain data storage section for storing the data decoded by said decoding section;

 a plurality of processing section for carrying out
10 one of different sets of processing steps for an operation requested by the user on the data decoded by the decoding section;

 judging, upon receiving a request for an operation from the user, for determining if the current time
15 agrees with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data;

 issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to said decoding section and said corresponding processing section if the current time is
20 determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and the plain data storage section does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to said request for an operation to
25 said corresponding processing section if the current time is determined in said judging step to agree with the time authorizing the use of said encoded data and

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reserving the issuance of a command responding to
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5 ing the use of said encoded data if the current time is
determined in said judging step not to agree with the
time authorizing the use of said encoded data.